

# Evaluating and improving the results of air quality models in Texas using TES, AIRS and other satellite data

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AIRS Science Team Meeting



#### Overview of Collaboration with TCEQ

- Collaborate with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to improve the modeling of ozone episodes in Texas
  - Meteorological and air quality models are primary tool for developing emission strategies to bring TX into attainment with EPA Standards
- What we are doing:
  - Applications:
    - Using chemical transport model results as lateral and vertical boundary conditions for the TCEQ air quality model (CAMx)
    - Using TES (O3, CO, Sea Surface Temperature), AIRS (Temperature, H2O, CO), AMSR-E (Sea Surface Temperature) for benchmarking MM5 and CAMx model results

#### Science Studies:

- Evaluating the effects of transport of pollutants originating outside the state boundaries
- Nighttime ozone over Texas



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Direct use of satellite data to benchmark model results used in making air quality policy decisions



# **Acknowledgements**

#### Collaborators:

- Mark Estes, Clint Harper, Weining Zhao, Doug Boyer, Jim Smith (TCEQ)
- Jay Al-Saadi (NASA Langley Research Center)
- Brad Pierce (NOAA/NESDIS)
- Kevin Bowman, Brian Kahn, Bill Irion (JPL)
- Wallace McMillan (UMBC)

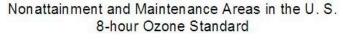
 Thank you to Annmarie Eldering and Reinhard Beer for allowing me to continue this work between proposal calls

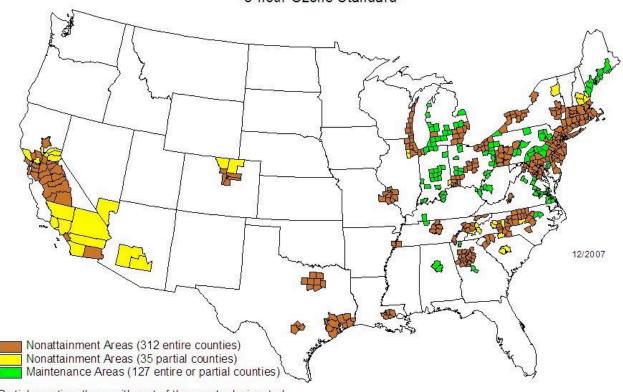


#### **Federal Clean Air Act**

- Federal Clean Air Act is the legal foundation for the national air pollution control program and gives the EPA the power to:
  - Establish national air quality standards
  - Monitor achievement of goals outlined in SIP
- EPA Eight-Hour Ozone Standard is at 0.08 ppm (0.075 ppm as of March12, 2008)
  - An area violates the standard when the 3-year average of each year's 4th highest reading at a monitor equals or exceeds 85 ppb
- State Implementation Plans:
  - An enforceable plan developed at the state level that explains how the state will comply with the Federal Clean Air Act
  - Must be submitted by any state that has areas designated as in nonattainment of federal air quality standards
  - Contains information on control strategies for bringing designated areas back into attainment
- Implications of nonattainment
  - Health implications of ozone pollution
  - Potential loss in billions of dollars economic development for the state

# **US 8-Hour Ozone Standard Status**



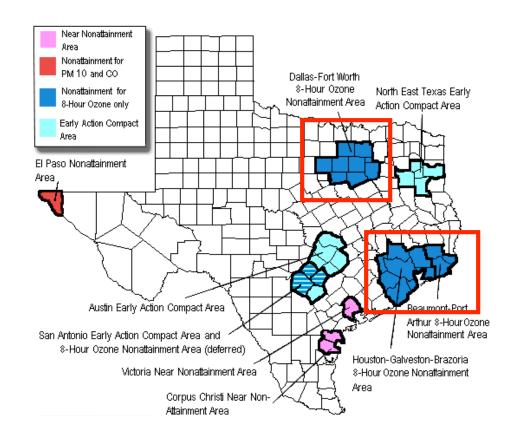


Partial counties, those with part of the county designated nonattainment and part attainment, are shown as full counties on the map.



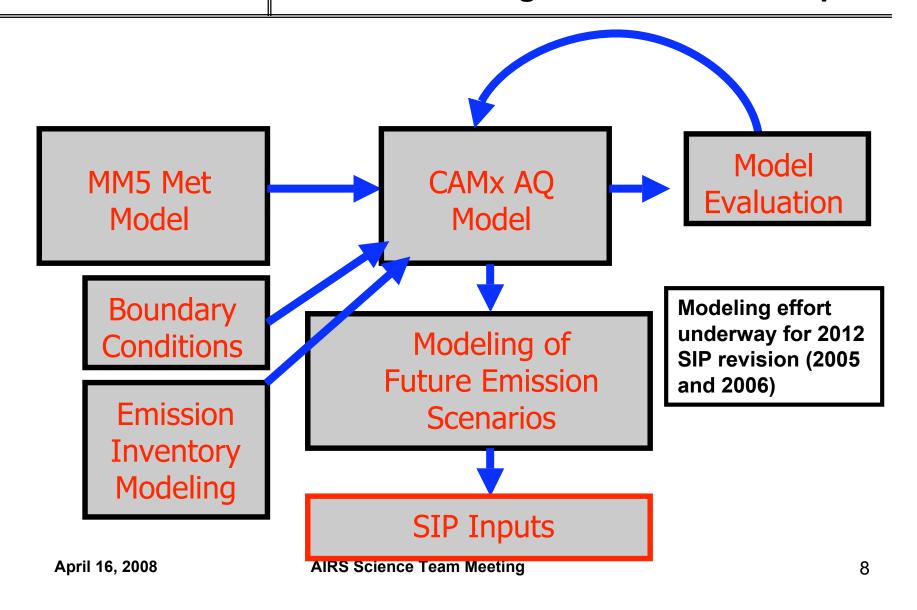
#### **Texas Areas of Nonattainment**

- Focus of proposed work:
  - Houston/Galveston/Brazori a 8-Hour Ozone Designation: Moderate
  - Dallas/Ft Worth 8-Hour
     Ozone Designation:
     Moderate
  - SIP Revisions for both areas due June 15, 2007
- Areas that may be in nonattainment of new EPA Standard:
  - Austin/San Antonio
  - Tyler/NE Texas
  - El Paso



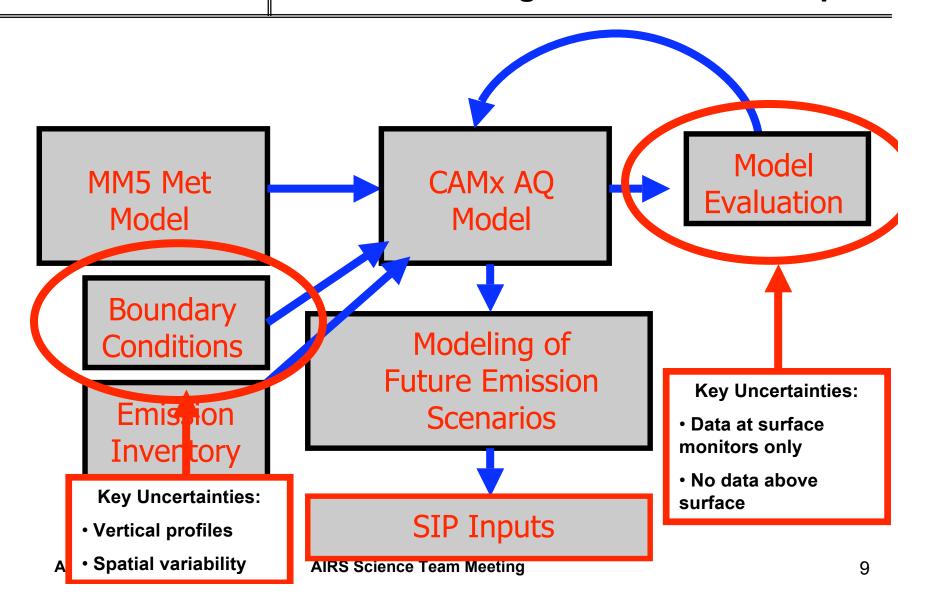


# **TCEQ Modeling Process for SIP Input**



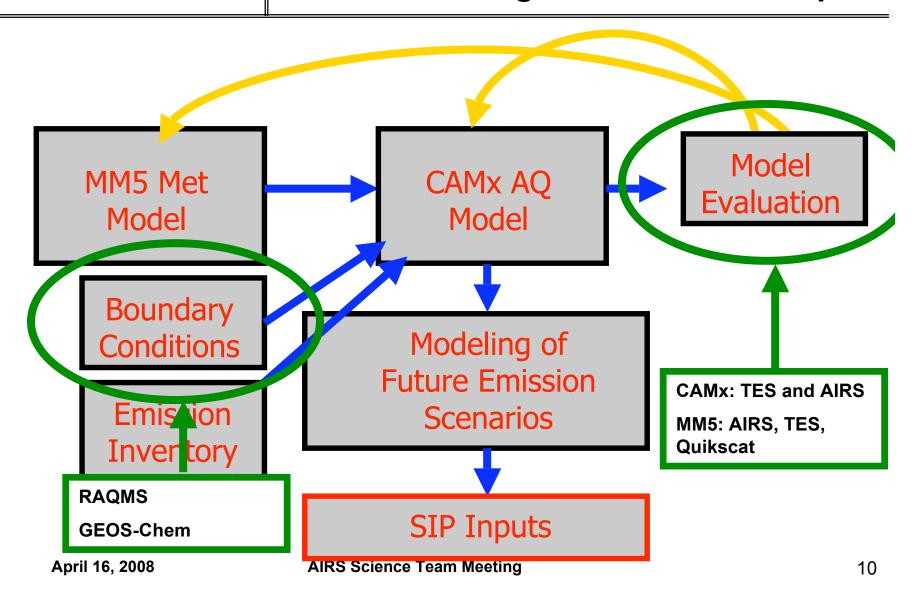


# **TCEQ Modeling Process for SIP Input**



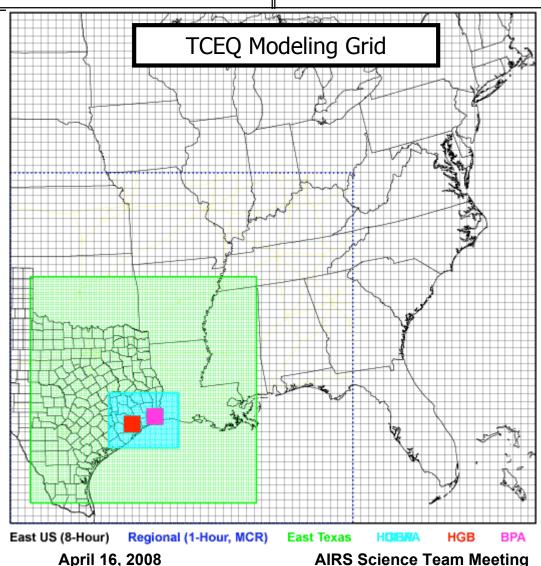


# **TCEQ Modeling Process for SIP Input**





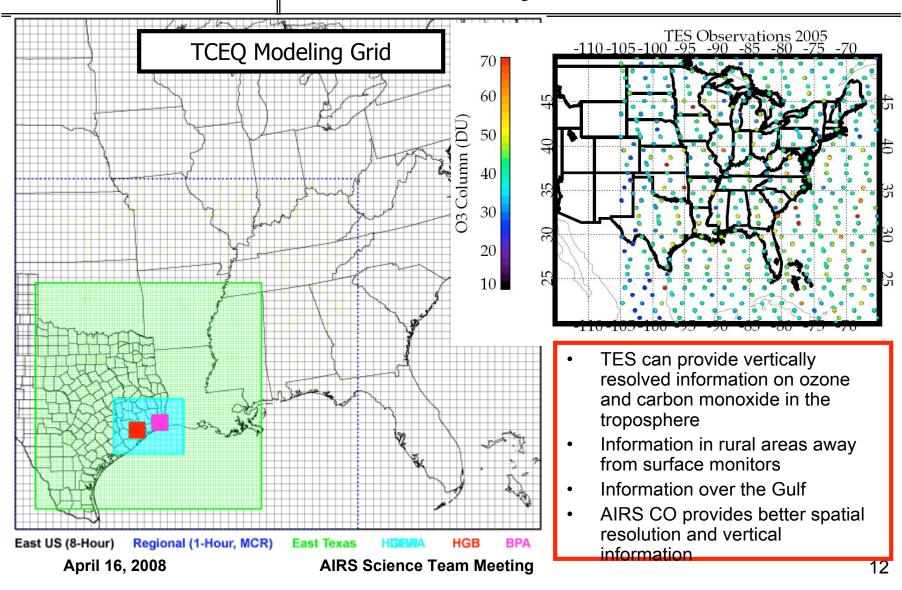
# **Air Quality Model Evaluation**



- TCEQ uses nested CAMx model runs
  - $-36 \times 36 \text{ km}$
  - $-12 \times 12 \text{ km}$
  - $-4 \times 4 \text{ km}$
- Currently modeling 5 time periods during 2005 & 2006
- Current boundary conditions are based on ground monitor data from EPA
- ~ 200 ground monitors in Texas (25 in Houston Area)
  - Primary model evaluation data
  - Mostly located in urban areas
  - No data over the Gulf of Mexico

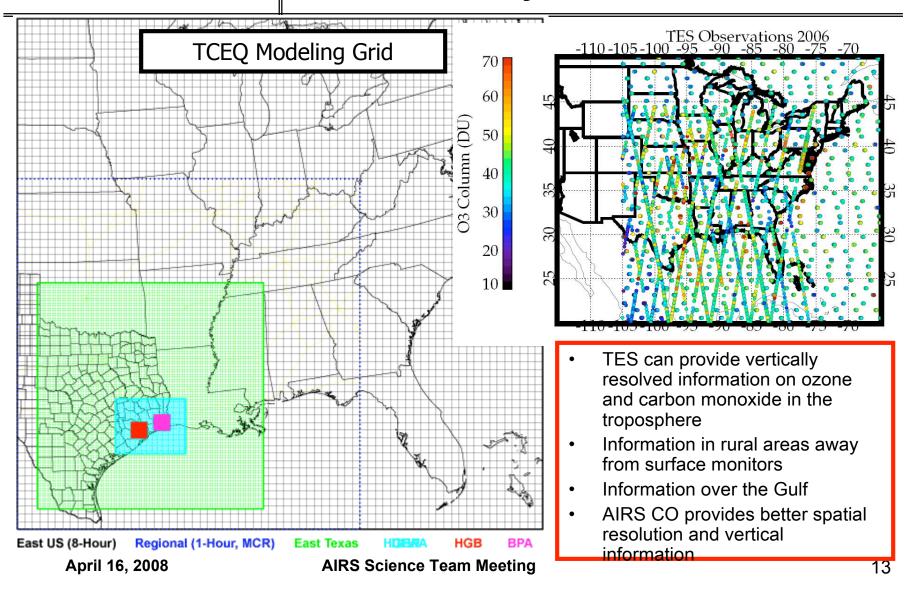


# **Air Quality Model Evaluation**



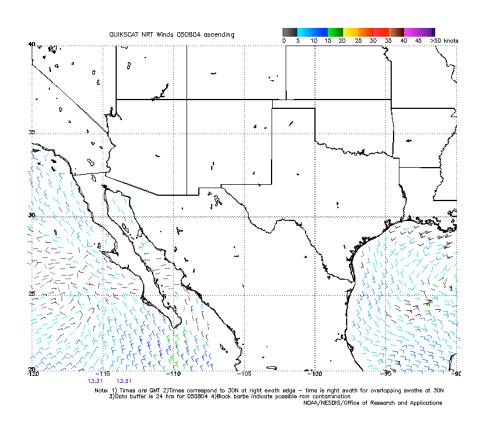


# **Air Quality Model Evaluation**





# **Meteorological Model Evaluation**

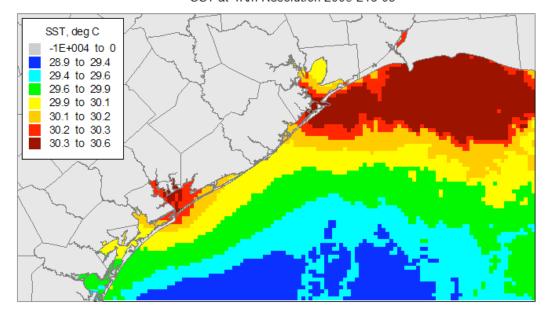


- Houston air quality is tied to the wind patterns onto and from the Gulf of Mexico
- Sea surface temperature and winds in the Gulf are key variables that are not routinely validated within the TCEQ modeling system
- Plan to provide Quikscat data to TCEQ for use in MM5
- Winds over land?



# **Meteorological Model Evaluation**

#### SST at 4Km Resolution 2005-218-09

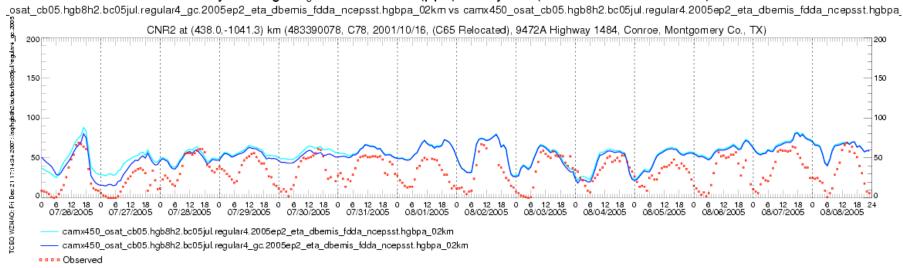


- TCEQ and the University of Houston have incorporated the GOES sea surface temperature product into MM5
- Took the hourly GOES product on 6 km grid and placed it on MM5 grids (108, 36, 12 and 4 km)
- Evaluation of data set is needed
  - TES SST product
  - AMSR-E SST product
- Evaluation of MM5 temperature profiles is also needed
  - AIRS Temperatures



### **Preliminary Results - Conroe**

#### Hourly Average O<sub>3</sub> Concentration (ppb) at Layer 1 (07/26/2005-08/08/2005)

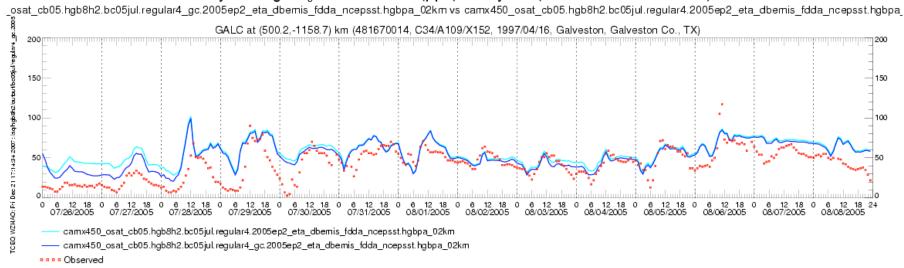


- Used GEOS-Chem Near Real Time results for time period July 24 August 8, 2005 to provide boundary conditions in the troposphere for CAMx model
- Small improvement for July 29-30 in Conroe for comparisons with surface monitors
- Learning the best way to implement the use of GEOS-Chem
- Expect improvement in model values of ozone above the boundary layer (not validated yet)



# **Preliminary Results - Galveston**

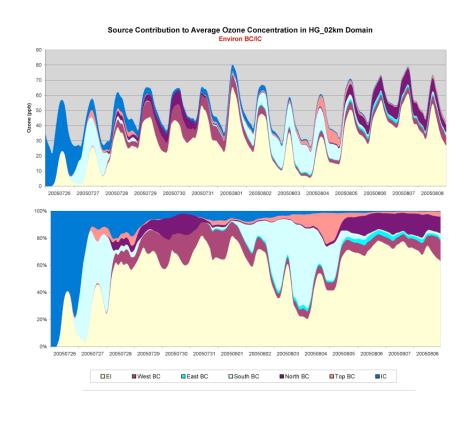
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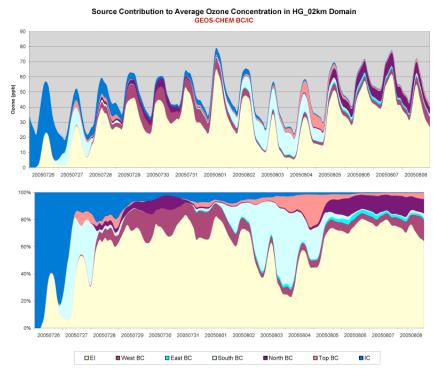


- Used GEOS-Chem Near Real Time results for time period July 24 August 8, 2005 to provide boundary conditions in the troposphere for CAMx model
- Small improvement for July 29-30 and August 3-4 in Galveston for comparisons with surface monitors
- Learning the best way to implement the use of GEOS-Chem
- Expect improvement in model values of ozone above the boundary layer (not validated yet)



# Source Apportionment – Preliminary Result







#### **Status of Work with TCEQ**

#### Completed:

- Developed work plan for collaboration
- Provided initial boundary conditions for July-August 2005 time period (GEOS-Chem)

#### Next Steps:

- Format RAQMS analyses for 2006 time periods as boundary conditions
- Beginning evaluation of July-August 2005 CAMx model results with TES data
- Evaluation of July-August 2005 MM5 temperature profiles with AIRS data
- Evaluation of GOES/MM5 sea surface temperature with TES and AMSR-E
- Provide Quikscat data for use in TCEQ modeling
- Proposal ROSES 2008 Applied Science Program (Air Quality Decision Support)
- Transport studies from Texas Air Quality Study II (AIRS/TES/RAQMS/OMI)
  - August 23, 2006 Osterman et al.
  - August 30, 2006 McMillan et al.



#### **Status of Work with TCEQ**

- Longer term:
  - Add additional data sets (OMI NO2, ...)
  - Fire effects in boundary conditions
  - Clouds

- CAMx is used by many state/local air quality boards
  - In contact with the state of California
  - Work done with TCEQ can be modified to work with other air quality models (CMAQ)
  - Climate change and future air quality



# CA 2010 Air Quality and Climate Mission (Proposed)

#### Science Questions:

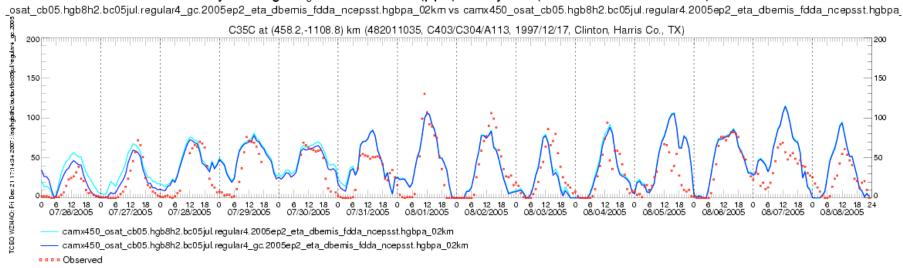
- What are the important transport corridors for key chemical species within California, and under what conditions is that transport important?
- What are the sources and physical mechanisms that contribute to high ozone concentrations aloft that have been observed in Central and Southern California?
- What are the most important chemical processes occurring during night, particularly with respect to reactions of nitrogen oxides? What is needed to improve air quality modeling of nighttime chemistry?
- What are proper oceanic boundary conditions for coastal and regional atmospheric chemistry modeling? Are there variations in oceanic boundary conditions in northern and central California vs. the southern part of the state? What physical and chemical changes occur as a parcel of air moves from off-shore, through the shore zone, and inland?
- Can apply lessons learned from Texas AQS II, work with TCEQ and California portion of ARCTAS
  - Air quality studies and applications
  - Climate related analyses of TES radiances and tropospheric ozone

## **Extra**



# **Preliminary Results - Clinton**

#### Hourly Average O<sub>3</sub> Concentration (ppb) at Layer 1 (07/26/2005-08/08/2005)



- Used GEOS-Chem Near Real Time results for time period July 24 August 8, 2005 to provide boundary conditions in the troposphere for CAMx model
- Small improvement for July 30-31 in Clinton for comparisons with surface monitors
- Learning the best way to implement the use of GEOS-Chem
- Expect improvement in model values of ozone above the boundary layer (not validated yet)



# Using Satellite Data to Study Air Pollution and Potential Health Impacts

Goal 1: Use of satellite data (TES and OMI, and ozone sondes) to augment EPA activities (surface monitors, health data and models) in trying to mitigate the health effects of ozone episodes along the US-Mexico Border

**Goal 2**: Work with EPA to understand the strengths of Aura satellite data for understanding air pollution events

Preliminary Result: Improvements in modeling of free troposphere by air quality models (CMAQ)

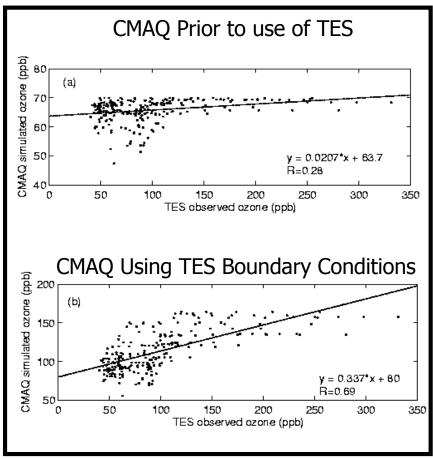
Result: A project report is being finalized, work has been distributed widely in EPA

# TES data helped improve the model with mid-tropospheric ozone

CMAQ=Community Multi-scale Air Quality Modeling System

Collaboration with EPA Region 9, JPL, UC-Berkeley, NASA Ames RC, Arizona State University

#### EPA Region 9 Advanced Monitoring Initiative: US – Mexico Border Pollution



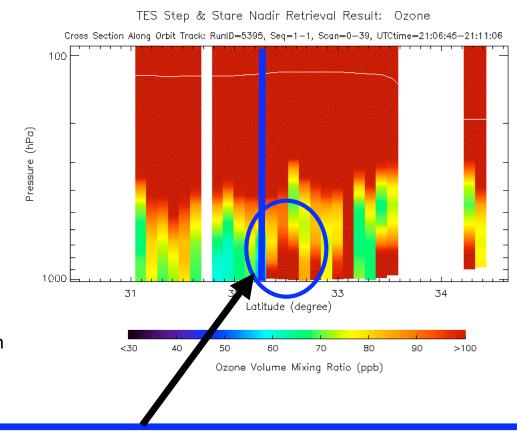


# Using Satellite Data to Study Air Pollution and Potential Health Impacts - Continued

Aura Contribution: Using OMI/MLS products to map tropospheric ozone along with the ability of TES to provide vertical information on ozone and carbon monoxide in the troposphere to help the EPA to understand air pollution events

TES Contribution: TES provided special observations across the US/Mexico border near San Diego and El Paso

Future Work: The work in this project is a first step and provides insight into how the NASA satellite data might be used with EPA tools and health data for studying air pollution events and their health impacts



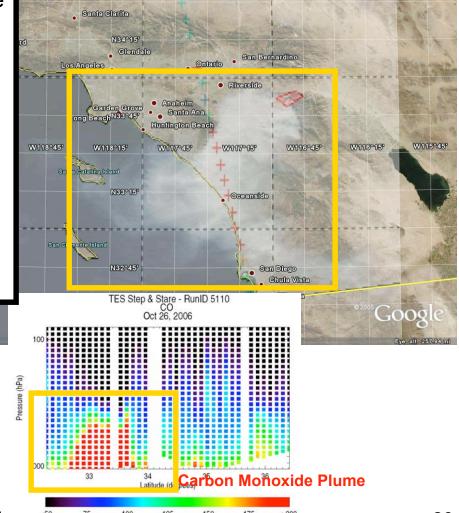
TES special observation near San Diego on June 7, 2007 showing high levels of ozone in the lower troposphere on the US side of the border



# Studying Carbon Monoxide and Ozone Plumes from Wildfires

- Examining the effect of the Esperanza Fire (10/26/2006) on tropospheric ozone using TES and other satellite instruments (OMI, MLS, AIRS)
- TES measures the vertical profiles of ozone and carbon monoxide down wind of the plume (Very large plume of CO)
- The use of satellite and surface monitor data to understand the evolution of ozone in the plume and **possible air quality implications**.

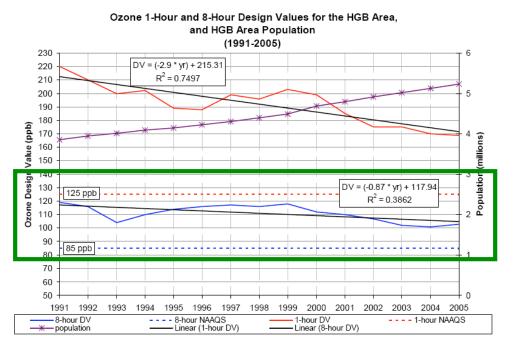
TES Step & Stare - RunID 5110





# **Texas Air Quality Study II**

- Challenge in understanding the relative effects of local, regional, continental and global effects on air quality in Texas
- The Texas Air Quality Study II
  was a multi-institutional field
  campaign to provide the Texas
  Commission on Environmental
  Quality (TCEQ) with data that can
  be used in the development of
  ozone SIP revision

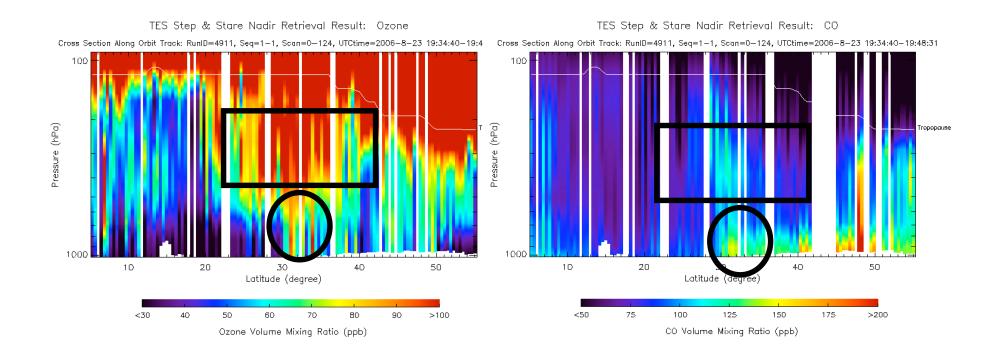


- TCEQ put together a list of specific questions to be addressed during the mission
- The mission featured quick turnaround of data and analysis and provided a final report (Rapid Science Synthesis) that provided answers to TCEQ questions
- The results of the Rapid Science Synthesis was used in the SIP revisions approved in May 2007
- Increased participation of satellite data teams compared to TexAQS I (2000)



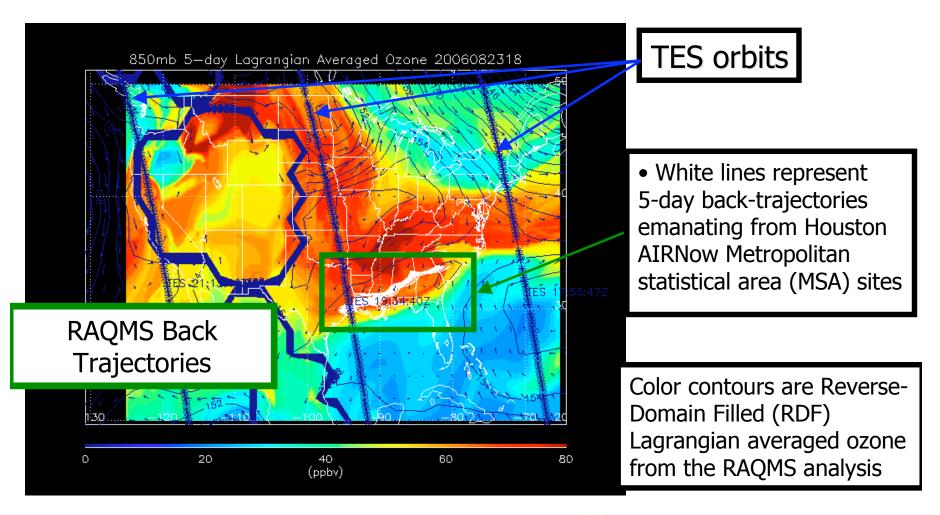
# TexAQS Case Study – Aug 23, 2006

# Transport: Elevated CO and O3 over Houston region observed from TES Step & Stare on August 23, 2006 (TexAQS II)



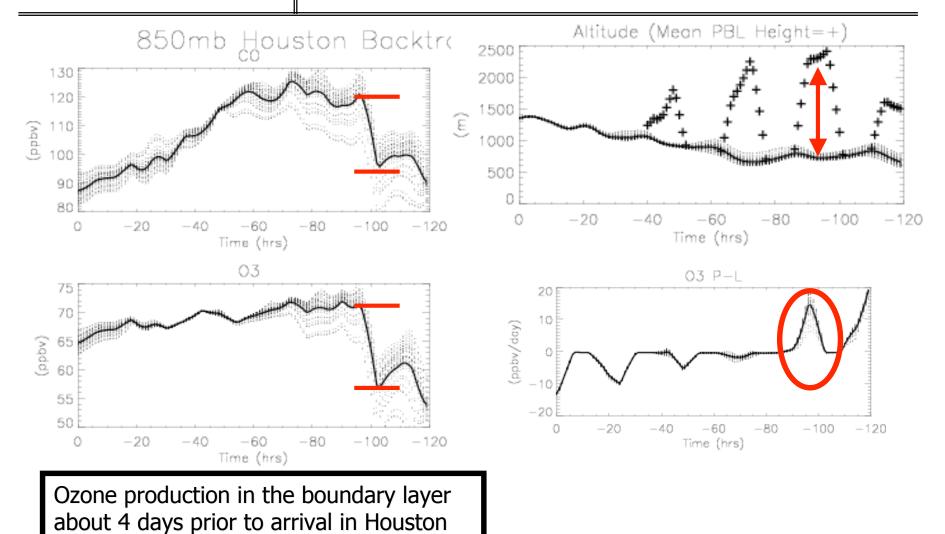


# TexAQS Case Study – Aug 23, 2006



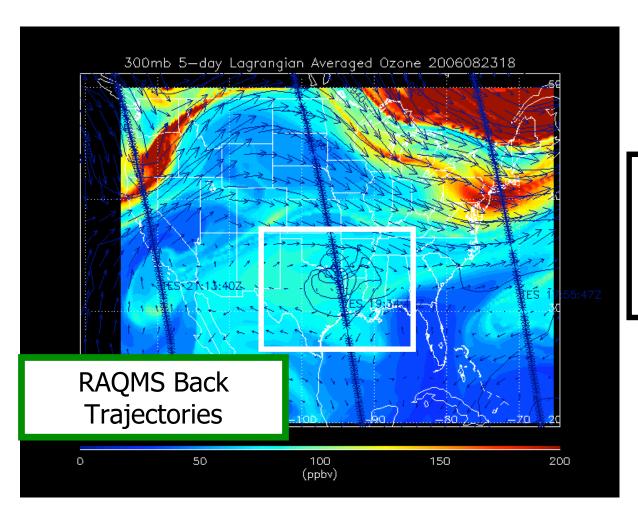


# TexAQS Case Study – Aug 23, 2006





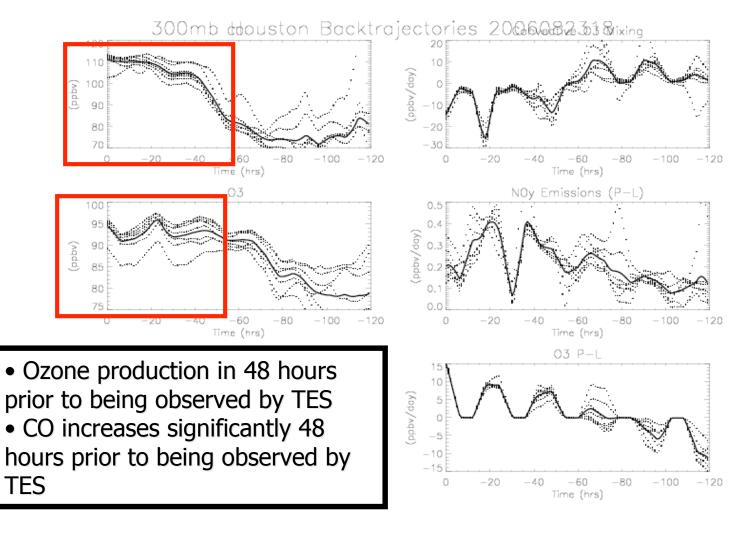
# TexAQS Case Study – Aug 23, 2006



Blue lines represent
 5-day back-trajectories
 emanating from TES
 observations

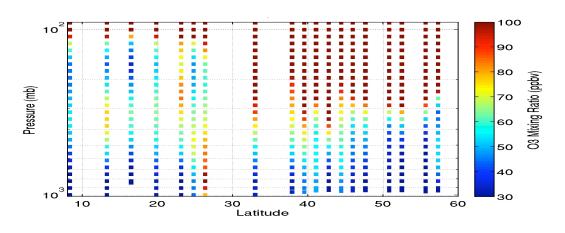


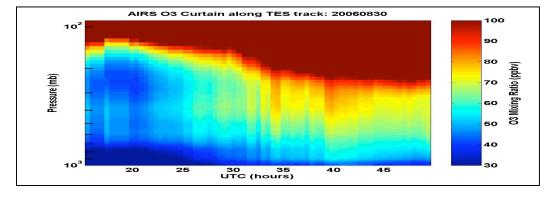
# TexAQS Case Study – Aug 23, 2006





# TexAQS Case Study – Aug 30, 2006





- Using AIRS, TES OMI data with RAQMS analysis
- AIRS, TES, MLS, and OMI provide consistent view of UTLS (CO, O<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O) on 30 August 2006 in TexAQS area
  - Track lower trop CO from fires to Houston
  - Stratospheric intrusion mapped
  - Possible pollution outflow from Houston into the Gulf
  - Possible lightning O<sub>3</sub>